AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the Application.

1-12.   (Canceled)

13.   (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of describing user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia content, the method comprising:

providing user preference information in a user profile, the user preference information describing browsing preference information that specifies a plurality of browsing preferences, a first genre to which the plurality of browsing preferences apply, and a respective preference value for each browsing preference in the plurality of browsing preferences, wherein the respective preference value indicates relative ~~priority for using~~ importance of the corresponding browsing preference for browsing multimedia content of the first genre.

14.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the plurality of browsing preferences is described in a hierarchical data structure.

15.   (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of describing user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia content, the method comprising:

providing browsing preferences describing a plurality of summary preferences that apply to a first genre of multimedia content, wherein the browsing preferences assign a respective preference value to each summary preference in the plurality of summary preferences, the respective preference value indicating relative ~~priority for selecting~~ importance of the corresponding summary preference for browsing multimedia content of the first genre.

16.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of summary preferences is described in a hierarchical data structure.

17.   (Currently amended) A system for processing user preferences pertaining to navigation of and access to multimedia content, the system comprising:

a data storage device for storing a data structure specifying a plurality of summary preferences that apply to browsing a first genre of multimedia content, wherein the data structure assigns a respective preference value to each summary preference of the plurality of summary preferences, the respective preference value indicating relative priority for selecting importance of the corresponding summary preference for browsing multimedia content of the first genre; and

a data processing apparatus configured to process the data structure.

18.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the data structure specifying the plurality of summary preferences is structured hierarchically.

19.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the respective preference value for each browsing preference in the plurality of browsing preferences defines a respective preference weight.

20.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the plurality of browsing preferences includes a first browsing preference that specifies browsing based on one or more characters in the multimedia content of the first genre.

21.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the plurality of browsing preferences includes a second browsing preference that specifies browsing using key frames from the multimedia content of the first genre.

22.   (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

storing the user profile in a movable storage medium.

23.   (New) The method of claim 13, wherein specifying the respective preference value for each browsing preference in the plurality of browsing preferences includes specifying the respective preference value based on a usage pattern of each browsing preference in the plurality of browsing preferences.

24.   (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the respective preference value for each summary preference in the plurality of summary preferences defines a respective preference weight.

25.   (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the plurality of summary preferences includes a first summary preference that specifies a preferred summary type for the multimedia content of the first genre.

26.   (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the summary type specifies using key frames from the multimedia content.

27.   (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the summary type specifies one or more key themes for browsing the multimedia content of the first genre.

28.   (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the key themes include character-oriented browsing, character/place relation-oriented browsing, or time sequential browsing.

29.   (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the respective preference value for

each summary preference in the plurality of summary preferences defines a respective preference weight.

30.   (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the plurality of summary preferences includes a first summary preference that specifies a preferred summary type for the multimedia content of the first genre.

31.   (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the summary type specifies using key frames from the multimedia content.

32.   (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the summary type specifies one or more key themes for browsing the multimedia content of the first genre.

33.   (New) The system of claim 32, wherein the key themes include character-oriented browsing, character/place relation-oriented browsing, or time sequential browsing.

34.   (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the data storage device includes a movable storage medium for storing the data structure specifying the plurality of summary preferences.